as a Member of the Social Audit Panel. Shri Deshmukh has kindly consented to be a Member of the Panel.

The 'other conditions contained in the Resolution published on 27-3-1992 shall remain unchanged.

Sd7-
R. Ramanujan

Joint Secretary to the Govt, of India.

Tapping of Telephones

4234. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVA-JI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telephones of politician, I.A.S. officials and Journalists are being tapped in Andhra Pradesh as reported in the Indian Express of the 22nd July, 1992;

(b) whether there is any complaint from one of the senior I.A.S. officials to his Ministry in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken in this regard to rectify the malpractice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):
(a) No Sir.
(b) No Sir.
(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Problems of STD subscribers

4235. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has been Deceiving innumberable complaints from the STD subscribers regarding the inflated BOIs;

(b) whether it is a fact that reasons for such bills are defective Bills and metering, misuse by the staff and faulty instrumentation;

(c) if so, whether the subscriber's are opting for disconnection of STD on the face of helplessness;

(d) whether Government propose to rescue the subscribers by removing these causes and also to provide relief to the clients, STD users who have been suffered on account of excessive Billing;

(e) whether on account of heavy congestion on the Trunk Lines the subscribers receive the usual reply "there is a heavy traffic on this route, please dial after some time"; and

(f) if so, whether Government propose to add more lines to remove these congestions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, Complaints relating to excess billing were received! in respect of only 0.75 per cent of the total bills issued during 1991-92.

(b) These are among the reasons for the excess billing complaints. A proportion of the complaints are, on investigation, found to be not justified.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The complaints of the subscribers are examined thoroughly and relief is granted to the subscribers where the bills are found to be incorrect. Other measures like:

1. Provision of STD control facility to the subscribers from Electronic Telephone Exchanges to lock or unlock their STD facility.
2. Provision of supply of details of STD/ISD calls to the bers.

3. Computerisation of Telephone Billing and phasing out of old telephone exchanges by installing new Electronic Exchanges are expected to further reduce the incidence of complaints.

(e) Due to heavy calls generated by STD PCOs this message is connected on some routes. This message is also connected in case there is any link failure on some routes. But, in general this message is not connected on trunk calls.

(f) The congestion condition is regularly monitored and action is taken to remove such congestion by adding more lines.

Interception of Telephone Messages Permitted by DOT

4236. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the conditions under which interception of telephone message is permitted by the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) whether the Department of Telecommunications preserves the requisition orders issued by the authorised officers under the Indian Telegraph Act; and!

(c) whether it is la fact that the telephones of M.Ps were allowed to be intercepted by the Department of Telecommunications and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Sir, interception of telephone messages is permitted by Department of Telecom as per provisions of Section 5(2) of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 on receipt of requisitions from authorised officers of Central/ State Governments.

(b) Yes, Sir.

'(c) The Department only extends technical arrangements to place those numbers under interception which are specifically ordered by the competent authority as authorised) under the Indian Telegraph Act.

कानपुर की टेलीफोन सलाहकार समिति में सदस्यों का नाम-निर्देशन

4237. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कानपुर दूरसंचार के महाप्रबन्धक ने टेलीफोन सलाहकार समिति के लिये विधान परिषद् के एक सदस्य का नाम-निर्देशन किये जाने हेतु विधान परिषद् से अनुरोध किया है ;

(ख) क्या विधान परिषद् सचिवालय ने किसी नाम का प्रस्ताव किया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सदस्य को टेलीफोन सलाहकार समिति में आमंत्रित किया गया है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी०वी० रंगैया नायडू) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) जी हां ।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता क्योंकि तत्कालीन सरकार ने प्रस्तावित नाम का अनुमोदन नहीं किया था, तथापि कानपुर के लिए टेलीफोन सलाहकार समिति का पुनर्गठन 6 जुलाई, 1992 को कर दिया गया है ।

Gradation of FAX Machines

4238. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN; Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-. TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy adopted by his Ministry for gradation of various types of FAX machines and purchase of various types of machines by Government/Semi-Government Depart ments;